

## West Lafayette Human Relations Commission - Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm, November 16, 2010

West Lafayette City Hall

**Present:** Charlie Shook (Chair), Zarjon Baha, Angelica Duran, Vidhya Iyer, David Rosenthal (Secretary), Tom Logan (Attorney), Cecilia Tenorio (Guest)

**Absent:** Asako Iikubo, Kim Reisman, Susan Thomas, Phil Subeck

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by Mr. Shook, who determined the presence of a quorum.

Mr. Baha moved for approval of the agenda; Ms. Duran seconded. **Motion to approve the agenda passed with unanimous consent.**

The minutes from the August 17, 2010 meeting were presented for review. Ms. Duran moved for approval of the minutes without amendment; Ms. Iyer seconded. **Motion to approve the August 17, 2010 minutes passed with unanimous consent.**

### CONTINUING BUSINESS

1. Follow up on amendments to Human Relations Ordinance and Resolution: Mr. Shook briefly discussed the passage of the "Ordinance Amending the Procedures Of The City Of West Lafayette Human Relations Commission" and "Resolution To Reaffirm Action Taken By The West Lafayette Human Relations Commission." Both passed five to two with the support of Mayor John Dennis and Council President Ann Hunt, along with Councilors Thomas, Dietrich, Hoggatt, and Bunder at the October 4, 2010 City Council Meeting. The amendment passed on second reading at the November 2, 2010 City Council Meeting. The amendment added a flexible mediation option to the complaint resolution process and extended HRC meeting times and locations. The resolution granted the Commission the authority to accept complaints of discrimination on the basis of gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status.
2. Diversity Roundtable (DRT) report: Ms. Iyer has represented the Commission on the DRT and agrees to continue doing so until the Diversity Summit in March 2011. She reported that the theme of the Summit will be "Developing Welcoming Communities" and speakers are being identified. The DRT is also working to create a banner that represents the DRT as well as the West Lafayette, Lafayette, and Tippecanoe Human Relations Commissions.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Creating Community Awareness: Mr. Shook said that following the presentation and analysis of survey results earlier in the year, more effort is needed to raise awareness of the Commission within the community. Mr. Rosenthal volunteered to update the Commission's brochure to reflect the recent ordinance amendments and resolution. The brochure will be translated into Spanish, Chinese, and Arabic and distributed throughout

the community. Ms. Tenorio will coordinate Spanish translation and Mr. Baha will arrange for Arabic translation. Someone is needed for Chinese translation.

2. Commission membership: Mr. Duran and Ms. Iikubo stated their intentions to step down from the Commission and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve. Mr. Shook asked the remaining members to prepare new member nominations for the next meeting of the Commission.
3. WLHRC Website: Ms. Duran noted that the list of members and minutes available on the Commission's website was out of date and ask Mr. Shook to investigate.
4. Fairness in the criminal justice systems: Ms. Iyer, following up on discussion at the last Commission meeting discussed the need to raise awareness of cultural differences in the legal community. Mr. Logan suggested looking into the possibility of offering CLE (continuing legal education) credits for classes or programs that raise cultural awareness. Ms. Iyer will lead a new committee to work on this issue. Mr. Subeck and Ms. Thomas will also join the committee.
5. Future meetings: Mr. Shook announced that the Commission's 2011 meetings will be held on the following dates: **February 15, May 17, August 23, and November 15.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** There were no comments from the audience.

**Ms. Duran moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12pm; Mr. Baha seconded. The meeting was adjourned.**